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PATENT

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of	)	Group Art Unit: 2811
Ronald Pasqualini	)	Examiner: O. Nadav
Appln. No. 09/164,216	)	<u>PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT</u>
Filed: September 30, 1998	)	<u>AND RESPONSE TO</u>
For: <b>ESD PROTECTION CIRCUIT</b>	)	<u>ELECTION OF SPECIES</u>
<b>UTILIZING FLOATING LATERAL</b>	)	<u>REQUIREMENT</u>
<b>CLAMP DIODES</b>	)	2001 Ferry Building
	)	San Francisco, CA 94111
	)	(415) 433-4150

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

In the Claims

Please cancel ~~claims 12-14.~~

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Amended) A semiconductor chip having a substrate of a first conductivity type, the chip comprising:  
a pad;  
an electrostatic discharge (ESD) positive [ring] line, the ESD positive line not being connected to a voltage source;  
an ESD negative [ring] line; and  
a plurality of floating lateral clamp diodes connected to the pad so that a first floating lateral clamp diode is connected to the pad and the positive [ring] line, and a second floating lateral clamp

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